NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WORKS APPROPRIATE
FOR THE STUDY AND COLLECTING
OF U.S. COINS

MONOGRAPH #1

NATIONAL COIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION
PO DRAWER 1150
MURPHYSBORO IL 62966

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INTRODUCTION

The following bibliography is designed to give the student and collector of U.S. Federal coinage a source of information for all of the important literature that is related to such coinage. It does not cover books on coins or coin collecting in general, books on numismatic history, books on investing, etc. Rather, it concentrates on books that collectors of specific series of U.S. Federal coinage would need in order to become fully-informed students and collectors. By way of introduction, however, the bibliography does provide information on numismatic periodicals that often contain worthwhile articles on certain series, as well as some standard books on pricing and grading that should be in every collector's library.

Weekly Periodicals

The two weeklies listed below, while dealing primarily in "hard news" related to numismatics, often have good feature articles on specific series of coins.

COIN WORLD - Published continuously since 1960 by Amos Press (Sidney, OH).
NUMISMATIC NEWS - Published continuously since 1952 by Krause Publications (Iola, WI).

Monthly Periodicals

The two monthlies listed below focus almost exclusively on specific series of U.S. coins. The articles range from those of interest to novices to those of interest to more advanced collectors.

COINAGE - Published continuously since 1964 by Miller Magazines (Ventura, CA).
COINS - Published continuously since 1954 by Krause Publications (Iola, WI).

The three monthlies listed below cover all of numismatics. As such, they only occasionally feature articles on specific series of U.S. coins.

NUMISMATIC SCRAPBOOK - Published continuously from 1935 to 1976.
NUMISMATIST, THE - Published continuously since 1888 by the American Numismatic Association (Colorado Springs, CO).
WHITMAN'S NUMISMATIC JOURNAL - Published continuously from 1964 to 1968.

Auction Catalogs

Many numismatic auction catalogs provide a wealth of information on the various series of U.S. coins and specific varieties within those series. Many, though, simply list dates.

BOOKS

The books listed below provide all of the standard publishing data. In addition, they describe the books by "weight class." The weight of a book, while certainly not always indicative of its literary quality, will give the reader an idea of how large a book is, in that it combines thickness, dimensions, paper quality, etc. For purposes of this bibliography, weight will be divided into three classes:

- "A" identifies books weighing over two pounds;
- "B" identifies books weighing between one pound and two pounds;
- "C" identifies books weighing less than one pound.

SOURCES

There are literally hundreds of places you can purchase the works listed in this bibliography. The following list is only meant as an introduction to some sources - ones with which I am personally familiar. Prices will vary - sometimes dramatically - from location to location and from year to year for many of the books listed here. For this reason, no prices were listed with the books.

BROOKLYN GALLERY COINS & STAMPS INC
8725 4th Ave (walk-in address)
PO Box 090146 (mail order address)
Brooklyn NY 11209-0003
718-745-5701
This dealership is a goldmine of literature. It has probably the the largest selection ot numismatic books in the nation, and the prices are discounted substantially. Send $2.00 and ask for their Supply Catalog (includes a complete listing of numismatic books and supplies). You won't be disappointed!

SUBWAY STAMP SHOP
111 Nassau St
New York NY 10038
800-221-9960 (orders only)
While not offering as large a selection of numismatic literature as Brooklyn Gallery, Subway does have an excellent selection, and prices are nicely discounted. Call or write for their free catalog.

D & H COLLECTIBLES
PO Box 72
Hillsdale NJ 07642
201-385-4706
D & H offers a moderate selection of numismatic literature and some discounted prices. Send for a copy of their "Coin Literature" catalog.

BOWERS & MERENA
Box 1224
Wolfeboro NH 03894
603-569-5095
800-222-5993 (orders only)
Call or write for a recent copy of Rare Coin Review ($5.00), a quarterly publication that lists B&M's numismatic literature selection. Although B&M does not have as wide a selection as Brooklyn Gallery or Subway, and prices are not discounted, they occasionally have literature that is difficult to find elsewhere.

The following five listings are numismatic literature dealers who hold numismatic literature auctions on a regular basis, where you can pick up many out-of-print works as well as other difficult-to-locate literature. Write or call these dealers with your want list and/or to get a copy of their most recent auction catalogs. In addition, some of them also have an inventory of literature for direct sale.

FUNCTION ASSOCIATES
6822 22nd Ave N - Suite 218
St Petersburg FL 33710
813-343-8055

FRANK & LAURESE KATEN
PO Box 4047 - Colesville Stn
Silver Spring MD 20914
301-384-9444

THE MONEY TREE
1260 Smith Ct
Rocky River OH 44116
216-333-3444

ORVILLE GRADY
6602 Military Ave
Omaha NE 68104
402-558-6782

GEORGE FREDERICK KOLBE
PO Drawer 3100
Crestline CA 92325
714-338-6527

GENERAL BOOKS

History

THE U.S. MINT AND COINAGE
Don Taxay
Arco, New York
1966
400 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This book, reprinted many times since 1966, is an excellent introductory book to the history of the various U.S. mints from the earliest days through the 1960s.

Pricing

COIN WORLD'S COMPREHENSIVE CATALOG AND ENCYCLOPEDIA OF UNITED STATES COINS
David Alexander (Editor)
World Almanac, New York
1990
456 pages / Hardback or Softback / Weight "A"
This book is an excellent companion volume to Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins (reviewed below). The book, in addition to containing a large percentage of the varieties listed in "Breen," provides pricing information. It contains many more entries than the "Redbook" (also reviewed below).

A GUIDE BOOK OF UNITED STATES COINS
R.S. Yeoman / Ken Bressett (Editor)
Whitman, Racine, WI
(Annual)
270 pages (1990 edition) / Hardback / Weight "B"
This book, known as the "Redbook," has been published continuously since 1947 and has been the hobby's "bible" in terms of retail pricing.

HANDBOOK OF UNITED STATES COINS
R.S. Yeoman / Ken Bressett (Editor)
Whitman, Racine, WI
(Annual)
192 pages (1990 edition) / Softback / Weight "C"
This book, known as the "Bluebook," has been published continuously since 1943. Unfortunately, it is all too often overlooked by collectors, who often only purchase a "Redbook." The value of the "Bluebook" is that it provides a realistic guide to the buyback prices by dealers for coins. The myth in numismatics is that dealers purchase coins at about 80% of retail. The "Bluebook" dispels this myth, showing that dealers actually repurchase coins for between 40% and 60% of retail.

Grading

OFFICIAL A.N.A. GRADING STANDARDS FOR UNITED STATES COINS
Ken Bressett and Abe Kosoff (Editors)
American Numismatic Association, Colorado Springs, CO
1987 (Third edition)
352 pages / Softback / Weight "B"
Known popularly as the "ANA grading guide," this book is now considered the standard book for grading U.S. coins. While it would benefit from having additional photos (eg: one photo for XF-40 and one for XF-45 instead of a single photo for "Extremely fine"), it is a valuable reference book for learning about grading.

PHOTOGRADE
James F. Ruddy
Bowers & Merena, Wolfeboro, NH
1972
112 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
Before the "ANA grading guide" was published, Photograde (first published in 1970) and A Guide to the Grading of United States Coins by Martin Brown and John Dunn (first published in 1958, and now out of print) vied with each other for popularity among collectors. Today, Photograde is of value to beginning collectors who want a "quick and easy" introduction to circulated coin grading.

General

WALTER BREEN'S COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF U.S. AND COLONIAL COINS
Walter Breen
Doubleday, New York
1988
754 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This is, without question, the definitive volume on series of U.S. coinage. It represents the culmination of almost 40 years of research by today's most knowledgeable and respected numismatist. For many series of coins, this volume is an excellent introduction. For other series, it is the only published volume available! If you are serious about coins, you need this book, more than any other book on coins ever published. Because of its importance, it will be relisted in each section of the coin series below.

SERIES WORKS

Works listed below are first divided by coin series. For early series of coins (primarily Nineteenth Century series), works are further divided into four subdivisions:

- Introductory References: These are works that provide good, basic introductions to the series for novices.
- Primary (Standard) References: These are works that are considered the best source of information on the series and are required reading for serious collectors.
- Supplementary References: These works are excellent companion volumes to the primary references and provide valuable additional information on the series.
- Secondary References: These are works that either once were primary references and have since been superseded, or works that are of less important interest.

For later series (primarily Twentieth Century series), works are divided into two subdivisions: Introductory References and Miscellaneous References.

Half Cents and Large Cents

Introductory References

UNITED STATES COPPER CENTS - AN ACTION GUIDE FOR THE COLLECTOR AND INVESTOR
Q. David Bowers
Bowers & Merena, Wolfeboro, NH
1984
175 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This book, which covers half cents, large cents, small cents, and two-cent pieces, provides an brief introduction to collectors who are starting to collect these series.

WALTER BREEN'S COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF U.S. AND COLONIAL COINS
(Covered earlier)

Primary (Standard) References

WALTER BREEN'S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF UNITED STATES HALF CENTS, 1793-1857
Walter Breen
American Institute of Numismatic Research, South Gate, CA
1983
502 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This book is not only the new definitive reference volume on half cents, it is a truly beautiful volume to behold, from the attractive cover to the incredible color plates within. If you collect half cents by variety and plan to purchase only one book on the series, this is it.

PENNY WHIMSY (EARLY AMERICAN CENTS, 1793-1814)
William Sheldon, Walter Breen, and Dorothy Paschal
Sanford Durst, New York
1990
408 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This work, an update of the 1958 classic, is the definitive volume on large cent varieties for these years. It is a must for any collector of the series.

UNITED STATES COPPER CENTS OF THE YEARS 1816-1857
Howard R. Newcomb
Numismatic Review, New York
1986
296 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This is the definitive volume on large cent varieties for these years. It is a must for any collector of the series.

Supplementary References

AMERICA'S COPPER COINAGE, 1783-1857
Coinage of the Americas Conference (COAC)
American Numismatic Society, New York
1985
186 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
This volume, a compilation of papers given at the ANS 1985 COAC conference, covers Early American (pre-Federal) copper, half cents, and large cents. Not for the novice.

ATTRIBUTION GUIDE FOR UNITED STATES LARGE CENTS, 1840-1857
John Grellman and Julius Reiver
(Self-published), Montgomery, AL
1987
416 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This handy volume provides more rapid attribution of coins from this era than does Newcomb's standard reference.

PENNY-WISE
This is the journal of the Early American Coppers club. It is published six times per year. The first issue was published in 1967. Each issue contains many articles covering all aspects of half cents and large cents, as well as Early American (pre-Federal) copper.

UNITED STATES LARGE CENTS, 1793-1857
Warren Lapp and Herbert Silberman
Quarterman, Lawrence, MA
1975
647 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This worthwhile anthology contains reprints of articles on large cents <u>and half cents</u> (even though not noted in the title) from <u>The Numismatist</u> from 1895 to 1971.

Secondary References

AMERICAN HALF CENTS, THE LITTLE HALF SISTERS
Roger S. Cohen
(Self-published)
1982
132 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
Until Walter Breen's volume on half cents (covered earlier), this was the standard reference.

UNITED STATES HALF CENTS, 1793-1857
Q. David Bowers and James F. Ruddy
Sanford Durst, New York
1984
94 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This is more of a historical volume, containing reprints of older books and articles on half cents. It will be of interest to the true specialist of half cents for historical purposes only.

Small Cents through Five-Cent Pieces

Introductory References

UNITED STATES COPPER CENTS - AN ACTION GUIDE FOR THE COLLECTOR AND INVESTOR
(Covered earlier)
This volume covers half cents, large cents, small cents, and two-cent pieces.

UNITED STATES THREE-CENT AND FIVE-CENT PIECES - AN ACTION GUIDE FOR THE COLLECTOR AND INVESTOR
Q. David Bowers
Bowers & Merena, Wolfeboro, NH
1988
168 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This volume picks up where the previous volume leaves off, providing a brief introduction to three-cent nickel, three-cent silver, five-cent nickel, and five-cent silver (half dimes).

WALTER BREEN'S COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF U.S. AND COLONIAL COINS
(Covered earlier)

Miscellaneous References

COLLECTING AND INVESTING IN UNITED STATES SMALL CENTS
Thomas K. Schmieder
Sanford Durst, New York
1985
110 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This is a general reference work on Indian and Lincoln cents, including history and "investing" information.

THE STANDARD GUIDE TO THE LINCOLN CENT
Sol Taylor
(Self-published), North Hollywood, CA
1988
172 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This book, now in its second edition, is the primary source of date-by-date information for collectors of Lincoln cents.

THE LINCOLN CENT DOUBLED-DIE
John Wexler
(Self-published)
1984
226 pages / Softback / Weight "B"
This heavily-illustrated book is an excellent source of information for those who specialize in doubled varieties of Lincoln cents.

LINCOLN SENSE
This is the journal of the Society of Small Cent Collectors. It is published six times per year. The first issue was published in 1983. Past issues contained articles on Lincoln cents only. Future issues will also contain articles on Indian cents.

THE TWO-CENT PIECE AND VARIETIES
Myron Kilman
Sanford Durst, New York
1983
70 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This book provides valuable information on the known varieties of two-cent pieces.

NICKEL NEWS
This is the journal of the American Nickel Collectors Association. It is published four times per year. The first issue was published in 1988. It contains articles on Shield nickels, Liberty Head nickels, Buffalo nickels, and Jefferson nickels.

THE BUFFALO NICKEL
Annette Cohen and Ray Druley
Potomac Enterprises, Arlington, VA
1979
130 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This book contains information on the history and grading of Buffalo nickels, as well as "investing" information.

Early Silver Coinage

Introductory References

UNITED STATES THREE-CENT AND FIVE-CENT PIECES - AN ACTION GUIDE FOR THE COLLECTOR AND INVESTOR
Q. David Bowers
Bowers & Merena, Wolfeboro, NH
1988
168 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
While this volume covers primarily nickel coinage, it also provides a brief introduction to the silver half dime series.

UNITED STATES DIMES, QUARTERS, AND HALF DOLLARS - AN ACTION GUIDE FOR THE COLLECTOR AND INVESTOR
Q. David Bowers
Bowers & Merena, Wolfeboro, NH
1986
214 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This book provides a brief introduction to collectors who are starting to collect these denominations.

WALTER BREEN'S COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF U.S. AND COLONIAL COINS
(Covered earlier)

Primary (Standard) References

THE UNITED STATES HALF DIMES
Daniel Valentine
Quarterman Publications, Lawrence, MA
1975
274 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
Although outdated, this is still considered the standard reference work on varieties of half dimes - a must for anyone collecting early half dimes by die variety.

EARLY UNITED STATES DIMES, 1796-1837
David Davis, Russell Logan, Allen Lovejoy, John McCloskey, and William Subjack
John Reich Collectors Society, Ypsilanti, MI
1984
280 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This is the standard reference work on varieties of early dimes. It is a must for anyone collecting the series by die variety. It is also, to date, the best, most professionally-written standard reference book on early silver coinage.

EARLY QUARTER DOLLARS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1796-1838
A.W. Browning
Sanford Durst, New York
1981
44 pages / Hardback / Weight "C"
Although somewhat outdated, this is still considered the standard reference work on varieties of early quarters - a must for anyone collecting this series by die variety.

EARLY HALF DOLLAR DIE VARIETIES, 1794-1836
Al C. Overton
(Self-published), Colorado Springs, CO
1970
274 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
Although outdated, this is the still considered the standard reference work on varieties of early half dollars - a must for anyone collecting this series by die variety. However, a much-expanded, revised, and better volume will be published soon by Overton's son-in-law, Don Parsley. Expected publication date is late 1990, so hold off on purchasing the 1970 edition unless you want it for historical purposes only.

VARIETY IDENTIFICATION MANUAL FOR UNITED STATES REEDED EDGE HALF DOLLARS, 1836-1839
Julius Reiver
(Self-published), Wilmington, DE
1988
60 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
Until this work, there was no comprehensive volume on this short series of coins. For those interested in collecting this series by die variety, this booklet is a must.

THE UNITED STATES EARLY SILVER DOLLARS, 1794-1803
M.H. Bolender
Krause Publications, Iola, WI
1988
93 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
This is the standard reference work on varieties of early silver dollars. It was first published in 1950, but since it has been updated and republished, it is current.

Supplementary References

DIE VARIETIES OF EARLY UNITED STATES COINS - VOL. I
Robert P. Hilt II
RTS Publishing, Omaha, NE
1980
124 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This interesting work, covering silver and gold coins from 1794 to 1798, is not for the novice. In fact, it is not even for the veteran who is looking for light reading. It is a very technical work on die varieties, but well worth it for the serious numismatist. No word on whether future volumes will be forthcoming.

AMERICA'S SILVER COINAGE, 1794-1891
COINAGE OF THE AMERICAS CONFERENCE (COAC)
American Numismatic Society, New York
1987
210 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
This volume, a compilation of papers given at the ANS 1987 COAC conference, covers silver coinage through 1891. Not for the novice.

VARIETY IDENTIFICATION GUIDE FOR UNITED STATES HALF DIMES, 1794-1837
Julius Reiver
(Self-published), Wilmington, DE
1984
38 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
Anyone collecting early half dimes by die variety needs a copy of "Valentine" (covered earlier) and this handy booklet, which makes attribution of coins in the series a lot easier.

VARIETY IDENTIFICATION GUIDE FOR UNITED STATES QUARTER DOLLARS, 1796-1838
Julius Reiver
(Self-published), Wilmington, DE
1987
48 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
Anyone collecting early quarters by die variety needs a copy of "Browning" (covered earlier) and this handy booklet, which makes attribution of coins in the series a lot easier.

JOHN REICH JOURNAL
This is the journal of the John Reich Collectors Society. It is published two to three times a year. The first issue was published in 1986. Each issue contains a number of articles covering all aspects of early silver coinage (1794-1839).

THE BHNC NEWSLETTER
This is the journal of the Bust Half Nut Club. Each issue contains a number of articles covering all aspects of early half dollars. Circulation of the newsletter, however, is limited to members of the club.

Secondary References

EARLY QUARTERS OF THE UNITED STATES
R. Duphorne
Windsor Group, (?)
1975
74 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
Although not the standard reference work on early quarters, this volume does contain a lot of interesting information on the series not contained in "Browning" (covered earlier).

HAZELTINE TYPE TABLE CATALOG OF EARLY U.S. HALF DOLLARS
John Hazeltine
Hewitt Bros., Chicago
Reprint of 1881 edition
55 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
Until "Belstle" (covered below), this was the standard reference work on early U.S. half dollars, but today is only of interest for its historical perspective.

A REGISTER OF U.S. HALF DOLLAR DIE VARIETIES AND SUB-VARIETIES
M.L. Belstle
(Self-published), Shippensburg, PA
1929
262 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
Until "Overton" (covered earlier), this was the standard reference work on early U.S. half dollars, but today is only of interest for its historical perspective.

Liberty Seated Silver Coinage

Introductory References

UNITED STATES THREE-CENT AND FIVE-CENT PIECES - AN ACTION GUIDE FOR THE COLLECTOR AND INVESTOR
(Covered earlier)

UNITED STATES DIMES, QUARTERS, AND HALF DOLLARS - AN ACTION GUIDE FOR THE COLLECTOR AND INVESTOR
(Covered earlier)

WALTER BREEN'S COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF U.S. AND COLONIAL COINS
(Covered earlier)

Primary (Standard) References

THE UNITED STATES HALF DIMES
Daniel Valentine
Quarterman Publications, Lawrence, MA
1975
274 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
Although outdated, this is still considered the standard reference work on varieties of half dimes - a must for anyone collecting Liberty Seated half dimes by die variety.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF UNITED STATES LIBERTY SEATED DIMES, 1837-1891
Kamal Ahwash
Kamah Press, Media, PA
1977
412 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This is the standard reference work on varieties of Liberty Seated dimes. It is a must for anyone collecting the series by die variety. It is also an extremely well-done, comprehensive work on the series.

To date, there are no books specifically dedicated to Liberty Seated quarters or half dollars. As such, Walter Breen's Encyclopedia (covered earlier) is the standard reference work for these series by default.

THE LIBERTY SEATED DOLLAR, 1840-1873
Weimar White
Sanford Durst, New York
1985
88 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This book concentrates on estimates of surviving specimens, rather than on die varieties. So, while it is considered the standard reference on the series, Walter Breen's Encyclopedia (covered earlier) is highly recommended as a companion volume to anyone collecting this series.

THE UNITED STATES TRADE DOLLAR
John Willem
Sanford Durst, New York
1983
192 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
This book concentrates on the history of Trade dollars, rather than on minting characteristics. So, while it is considered the standard reference on the series, Walter Breen's Encyclopedia (covered earlier) is highly recommended as a companion volume to anyone collecting this series.

Supplementary References

THE GOBRECHT JOURNAL - COLLECTIVE VOLUME I - 1980
THE GOBRECHT JOURNAL - COLLECTIVE VOLUME II - 1985
THE GOBRECHT JOURNAL - COLLECTIVE VOLUME III - 1990 (Available late Spring 1991)
Liberty Seated Collectors Club
(Self-published), Kettering OH
388 pages (Vol. I), 380 pages (Vol. II), ? pages (Vol. III) / Hardback / Weight "A" (each)
These handy volumes contain the articles from issues of The Gobrecht Journal (the official journal of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club) since 1975. Liberty Seated coin collectors who purchase these three volumes and remain current with new issues of the Journal as they are released will, in essence, own a complete set of Journals. The articles are very worthwhile.

AMERICA'S SILVER COINAGE, 1794-1891
(Covered earlier)

Secondary References

A REGISTER OF U.S. HALF DOLLAR DIE VARIETIES AND SUB-VARIETIES
(Covered earlier)

Twentieth Century Silver (Dimes Through Half Dollars)

Introductory References

UNITED STATES DIMES, QUARTERS, AND HALF DOLLARS - AN ACTION GUIDE FOR THE COLLECTOR AND INVESTOR
(Covered earlier)

WALTER BREEN'S COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF U.S. AND COLONIAL COINS
(Covered earlier)

Miscellaneous References (Barber Coinage)

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO BARBER QUARTERS
David Lawrence
(Self-published), Virginia Beach, VA
1989
102 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This is an excellent, comprehensive book on this series, covering history, mintmark analysis, grading, and survival estimates. A similar volume is in the works for Barber dimes. It is hoped one will also be forthcoming for half dollars.

JOURNAL OF THE BARBER COIN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY
This is the journal of the Barber Coin Collectors' Society. It is published four times per year. The first issue was published in 1989. Each issue contains a number of articles covering all aspects of Barber coinage.

Miscellaneous References (Post-Barber Silver Coinage)

MERCURY DIMES - AN IN-DEPTH STUDY
Dean Howe
(Self-published), Sandy, UT
1988
70 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This volume is a date-by-date analysis of the series, covering survival estimates, grading, and individual striking characteristics.

STANDING LIBERTY QUARTERS
J.H. Cline
(Self-published), Palm Harbor, FL
1986
232 pages / Softback / Weight "B"
This comprehensive volume covers the history, grading characteristics, survival estimates, etc. of the series. It is considered the standard reference to the series.

STANDING LIBERTY QUARTERS
Keith Keiman
International Numismatica, Nashua, NH
1976
98 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This volume is similar to Cline's work (covered above), but is not as comprehensive. However, it does have information not contained in Cline and is thus recommended for the specialist in this series.

MACNEIL NEWS
This is the journal of the Standing Liberty Quarter Collectors Society. It is published two to three times per year. The first issue was published in 1990. Each issue contains a number of articles covering all aspects of the series.

WALKING LIBERTY HALF DOLLARS - AN IN-DEPTH STUDY
Dean Howe
(Self-published), Sandy, UT
1989
84 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This volume is a date-by-date analysis of the series, covering survival estimates, grading, and individual striking characteristics.

THE LIBERTY WALKING HALF DOLLAR
Anthony Swiatek
Sanford Durst, New York
1983
72 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This work covers the history and grading characteristics of this series.

Morgan & Peace Dollars and Commemorative Half Dollars

Introductory References

WALTER BREEN'S COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF U.S. AND COLONIAL COINS
(Covered earlier)

Miscellaneous References (Silver Dollars)

COMPREHENSIVE CATALOGUE AND ENCYCLOPEDIA OF U.S. MORGAN AND PEACE DOLLARS
Leroy Van Allen and George Mallis
Arco, New York
1976
316 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This is considered the standard reference work on these series. It covers history, as well as technical information, varieties, etc.

MORGAN DOLLARS - AN IN-DEPTH STUDY
Dean Howe
(Self-published), Sandy, UT
1988
115 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This volume is a date-by-date analysis of the series, covering survival estimates, grading, and individual striking characteristics.

THE MORGAN AND PEACE DOLLAR TEXTBOOK
Wayne Miller
Adam Smith Publishing, Metairie, LA
1982
262 pages / Hardback / Weight "A"
This volume is a date-by-date analysis of these series, covering history, grading, rarity ratings, and varieties.

Miscellaneous References (Commemoratives)

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF UNITED STATES GOLD AND SILVER COMMEMORATIVE COINS, 1892-1989
Anthony Swiatek and Walter Breen
Bowers & Merena, Wolfeboro, NH
1990
386 pages / Softback / Weight "A"
This is considered the standard reference for the series, covering all aspects of each individual issue.

THE COMMEMORATIVE TRAIL
This is the journal of the Society for U.S. Commemorative Coins. It is published four times per year. The first issue was published in 1985. Each issue contains a number of articles covering all aspects of the series except investing.

BUYER'S GUIDE TO THE GRADING AND MINTING CHARACTERISTICS OF U.S. COMMEMORATIVE COINS - VOLUME I & II
Ray Mercer
Connecticut Numismatic Properties, New Canaan, CT
1986
44 pages (each volume) / Softback / Weight "C"
These excellent volumes cover, in detail, grading characteristics of half of the Commemorative series. (Two more volumes may be forthcoming, covering the other half of the series.)

AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF U.S. COMMEMORATIVE COINAGE
Don Taxay
Arco, New York
1967
256 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
This is an issue-by-issue analysis of the Commemorative series, focusing primarily on the history behind each issue.

UNITED STATES COMMEMORATIVE COINS
Arlie Slabaugh
Whitman, Racine, WI
1976
160 pages / Hardback / Weight "C"
This is a small introductory volume to the series, covering history and miscellaneous information.

Gold Coinage

Introductory References

WALTER BREEN'S COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF U.S. AND COLONIAL COINS
(Covered earlier)

Miscellaneous References

UNITED STATES GOLD COINS - AN ANALYSIS OF AUCTION RECORDS, VOLUME I through VOLUME VI
David W. Akers
(Self-published), Englewood, OH
1975 to 1982
1,580 pages (total for all six volumes) / Hardback / Weight "A" or "B" (depending on the volume)
This thoroughly-researched work covers availability of gold coins on a date-by-date basis, including information on scarcity of various grades.

MAJOR VARIETIES OF U.S. GOLD DOLLARS
VARIETIES OF UNITED STATES QUARTER EAGLES
MAJOR VARIETIES OF THE UNITED STATES THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECES
EARLY UNITED STATES HALF EAGLES, 1795-1838
VARIETIES OF UNITED STATES HALF EAGLES, 1839-1929
UNITED STATES EAGLES
NEW VARIETIES OF $1, $2.50 AND $5.00 UNITED STATES GOLD
Walter Breen
Hewitt Bros., Chicago
1964 to 1970
267 pages (total for all seven booklets) / Softback / Weight "C" (total for all seven booklets)

Despite the absence of standardized titling for these booklets, they are designed to be a comprehensive series on gold coinage. While Akers' works (covered above) focus on survival information on a date-by-date basis, Breen's series focuses on the various known varieties. Although the booklet series of over two decades old, there has been no updated work, except for Breen's own Encyclopedia (covered earlier).

HANDBOOK OF 20TH CENTURY UNITED STATES GOLD COINS, 1907-1933
David W. Akers
Bowers & Merena, Wolfeboro, NH
1988
182 pages / Softback / Weight "B"
This is a date-by-date analysis of this series, covering grading characteristics and rarity ratings.

BUYER'S GUIDE TO UNITED STATES GOLD COINS
Q. David Bowers
Bowers & Merena, Wolfeboro, NH
1989
122 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This is a brief series-by-series analysis of gold coins, concentrating on history, but including some survival estimates.

Miscellaneous Coinage

Proof Coinage

WALTER BREEN'S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF UNITED STATES AND COLONIAL PROOF COINS, 1722-1989
Walter Breen
Bowers & Merena, Wolfeboro, NH
1989
338 pages / Hardback and Softback / Weight "A"
This is the ultimate reference book for collectors who specialize in proof coinage.

Variety and Error Coinage

There are literally dozens of works on this topic, including lots of small, self-published booklets. Listed below are three of the most well-known, popular, and standard works.

THE CHERRYPICKER'S GUIDE TO RARE DIE VARIETIES
Bill Fivaz and J.T. Stanton
Atlantic Printing, Savannah, GA
1990
106 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This new volume has become a runaway best-seller in numismatic circles. While it is certainly not a comprehensive listing of die varieties, it is an excellent, simple-to-understand introduction to this fascinating area of collecting. It is highly recommended as an introductory volume. It lists, and has photos of, over 150 easy-to-recognize varieties, many of which are not listed in Breen's Encyclopedia (covered earlier).

THE RPM BOOK
John Wexler and Tom Miller
Lonesome John Publishing, Newbury Park, CA
1983
292 pages / Softback / Weight "B"
The numismatic novice may assume this book is about record album collecting (RPMs being "revolutions per minute"). Actually, the term stands for "repunched mintmarks" (multiple-struck mintmarks), and this book lists (and has photos of) literally hundreds of RPMs from almost all denominations and series of coins.

THE OFFICIAL PRICE GUIDE TO MINT ERRORS AND VARIETIES
Mark Hudgeons
House of Collectibles, Orlando, FL
1985
188 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
While this book is designed to be a general price-guide for collectors of error coinage, it also doubles as an excellent introductory handbook for those just getting started in this facet of the hobby. Lots of good articles and information!

Pattern Coinage

UNITED STATES PATTERN, EXPERIMENTAL, AND TRIAL PIECES
J. Hewitt Judd (revised by Abe Kosoff)
Whitman, Racine, WI
1982
276 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
This book, originally published in 1959, has become a classic work. It is a thorough analysis of pattern, experimental, and trial coinage.

Altered, Counterfeit, Mis-struck, and Unofficial Coinage

STANDARD CATALOG OF UNITED STATES ALTERED AND COUNTERFEIT COINS
Virgil Hancock and Larry Spanbauer
Sanford Durst, New York
1979
221 pages / Hardback / Weight "B"
Although the American Numismatic Association performed yeoman's service to the hobby in the late 1970s and early 1980s by exposing counterfeit and altered coins and helping to educate collectors in how to identify these coins, this book is still a necessity. It has detailed photos and explanations that will help you identify counterfeits and altered coins.

COUNTERFEIT, MIS-STRUCK, AND UNOFFICIAL U.S. COINS
Don Taxay
Arco, New York
1976
220 pages / Softback / Weight "B"
The book's subtitle says it all: "A Guide for the Detection of Cast and Struck Counterfeits, Electrotypes, and Altered Coins." As such, it is an excellent companion volume to "Hancock and Spanbauer" (covered above).

STRUCK COPIES OF EARLY AMERICAN COINS
Richard D. Kenney
Sanford Durst, New York
1982
18 pages / Softback / Weight "C"
This specialized work covers copies of Colonial coinage and some early half cents and compares them to legitimate specimens.